

## Students on a roll

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# VALLEY STAR

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Los Angeles Valley College

Van Nuys, California

October 12, 1995

### News Notes

**Financial Aid-Ability** to benefit test schedule will be on Oct. 18 at 6 p.m. in Administration Room 126. No appointment is necessary and bring picture ID. The test takes 90 minutes.

Valley and the Patrons Association presents the **47th Anniversary Dinner** in a salute to former ASUPresidents called "The Early Years: Looking Back." In Monarch Hall on Oct. 26 with a reception at 5:30 p.m. and dinner at 6:30 p.m., the Valley 50's Rockers and the 1995 Cheerleaders will be featured.

**Students-Registration** information for the Spring 96 semester will be mailed out soon. If you have moved within the last year, please come to the information counter in Admissions to submit a change of address form.

**Admissions, Graduation and Transcript** offices will be closed on Oct. 27 from 9 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

The annual **College and University Information Day** will take place on Oct. 18 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. in Monarch Square. Representatives from over 50 public and private universities will be on hand. For more information, call Barbara Goldberg, Career/Transfer Center Director, ext. 246.

**"Homecoming '95"** after party on Oct. 14. Valley vs. Pierce College and after party doors open at 8 p.m. in Monarch Hall. Pre-sale tickets are now on sale in ASU office. Game begins at 7 p.m. in Monarch Stadium. The parade and selection of the royal court will take place at half-time. Call ext. 361 for more details.

The **Resource Development Center** presents Identifying and Researching Grant Opportunities with Speakers: Dr. May Chen and Sherri Beloney-Hatcher Thursday from 2 to 4 p.m. in the Learning Resource Center at Los Angeles Trade Technical College in LRC 107. Call Beloney-Hatcher at ext. 2147 for more information.

Glendale Adventist Medical Center Foundation Oak Society is sponsoring and Educational Seminar on AIDS Awareness on Oct. 17 at 7 p.m. Call for more information the foundation at (818) 409-8055.

**Circle of Friends** meetings are on Mondays at noon in Art 103.

## Jostling of administration leaves lead positions in flux

### Dean's placement needs to be filled

By Shawn M. Bush  
Editor in Chief

During the past year, Valley College has seen many changes in its faculty and administration positions. With the announcement that Dr. Thomas Oliver, the current Dean of Academics, is planning to leave Valley's campus to become vice-President of Mission College, the LAVC administration is working through another potentially crippling shift in their duties.

Dr. Lee Hancock, Acting Dean of Academics, said, "I think there will be a replacement for Dr. Oliver quite soon. It will be overwhelming because many of us in this office are new." Hancock has been in her position at Valley for about six weeks.

"We are already short one clerical person, which makes it difficult to get all the work done. It is a very active office. We are also supposed to have another Dean," Hancock said.

If Oliver's replacement is delayed, the result is more work for Hancock who will need to fulfill his

duties. However, she is confident this will not occur. "As everybody knows, you can not have the senior person in your office be a Dean who has been a Dean for six weeks. That just isn't kosher," laughs Hancock.

Hancock comes to Valley as a veteran of the Los Angeles Community College District. She has worked at both Trade-Tech and LACC, racking up a tenure of 13 years from each institution.

College president, Tyree Weider said, "I have asked Frank Sinsheimer to take the position." Final acceptance of Sinsheimer as Dean was expected to come from the district chancellor late Wednesday. "I do not anticipate any problems in the acceptance (of Sinsheimer for the position)," said Weider.

With the many shifts in personnel, it may not be surprising that Hancock sees Valley as "a changing place. People are trying to figure out what to do next."

Hancock's experience at Valley has not been what she expected. "It's a totally different at-

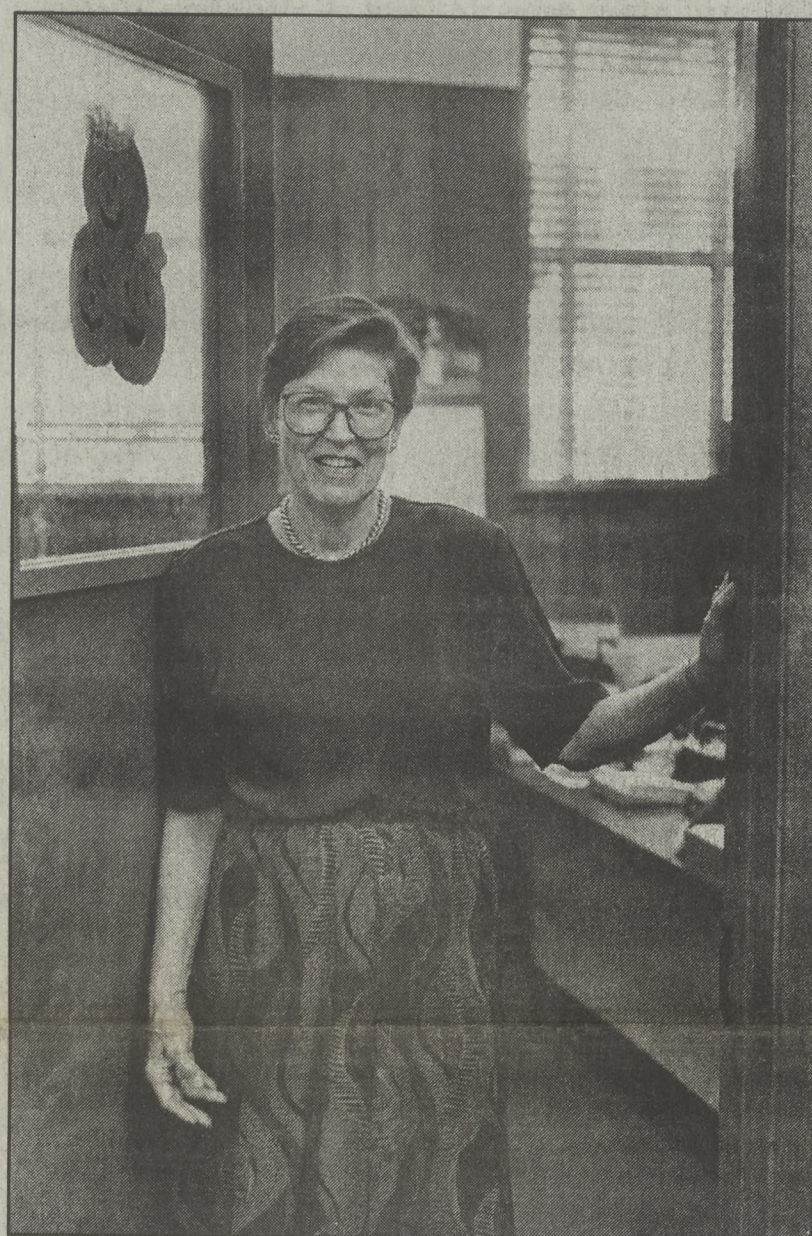
mosphere. What pleased me the most is the approach to students and the informal, amicable relations between all the staff. It certainly is not what I was used to," Hancock said.

As soon as her schedule permits, Hancock plans on focusing her attention on reviewing Valley's academic program and replacing the dozens of instructors the campus lost in the mass retirement last spring.

"Change the world little by little. That was the hardest lesson I ever learned. I came right out of high school thinking I could change the world. I went to Berkeley. I was 16 years old and did not have any money or family. I lasted about a year and dropped out. So, I'm a college drop-out," said Hancock.

Hancock returned to Berkeley seven years later and pursued her Master's Degree in English. She received her doctorate in 1988.

Sinsheimer, who has lead the college respiratory therapist program to top placement within the state, was unavailable for comment.



Valley Star/Rod Goodman  
Acting Dean of Academic Affairs Dr. Lee Hancock takes her job.

## Homecoming is coming back to Valley

By David Baldwin  
News Editor

Just imagine 7,000 people chanting Monarchs, Monarchs, Monarchs. That is what both head Coach Jim Fenwick and the Monarchs hope for.

"We are appealing to the students of Valley to come out and have some fun," Fenwick said.

"Homecoming is a very valuable

thing to students if they take advantage of it," Fenwick said.

The Monarchs are going to try to break the stadium attendance record this Saturday with their game against the Pierce Brahmas. The old record was set in 1969 with 6,804 people as the Monarchs fought against Bakersfield.

"Be prepared to play. If we break the attendance record you can show off, but don't forget that your here

to do your job," Fenwick said to the players.

Homecoming this year will begin when the crowd enters the stadium. Once those attending the game pay for their tickets, they will be entered in a drawing to receive a three-day two night stay at the Beverly Hilton Hotel. There are plans for a progressive cash raffle and more prizes to be given away.

"I think this homecoming is go-

ing to be better than any one we have ever had due to the fact that we are doing everything a little different. I hope everyone will enjoy it," Lorenzo Trujillo Associated Students Union President said.

The Monarchs will be taking the field against the Brahmas who have a record of one win and three losses.

"We are proud of our team and we think Pierce should be a good challenge for us," Fenwick said.

At half-time, a parade will take place around the field. There will be club participation, floats and the announcement of the homecoming king and queen. After the game, there will be a homecoming dance planned for 8 p.m. to midnight.

"This year all the clubs are working together to make homecoming as nice as it can be for all the students on campus," Trujillo said.

## Town Hall meeting focuses on lack of computers

By Sierra Roberts  
Valley Star Staff Writer

Valley's equipment is outdated. This was the general consensus at the Town Hall meeting to discuss "The Future of Computer Technology at LAVC" last Thursday, October 10. No final decisions have been made. Access to at least one computer per department was collectively pointed out as the greatest need.

Valley's president, Tyree Weider set up the meeting "to get input from faculty regarding the future of technology on campus." The specific issue was greater computer access for faculty and students.

The meeting revealed every department on campus needs some sort of computer access in order to stay updated with current technology.

Many departments requested new computer labs for the students to work in. Others said the use of at least one computer in their department would make a

world of difference.

The main question is how will this all be funded? One instructor suggested a \$20 fee to all students for access to these computers each semester.

Another suggestion was to have one large computer lab with approximately 300 computers with campus wide availability.

Weider sent a survey to the 15 labs on campus in regards to their need of computers. Department chairpersons were also asked to fill out current equipment needs. The Art Department, Behavioral Science, and the Life Science Learning Center have expressed their wish for more current equipment such as computers.

Many faculty members and chair persons attended and gave insight as to what they felt should be done with the \$200,000 to update the school's technology.

This portion of the school's block grant was requested by the Academic Senate to be used for the purchase of instructional equipment.



Valley Star/Dorou Boghosian  
At a recent Town Hall meeting, president Tyree Weider takes questions and comments with a smile.



# Repercussions far outweigh advantages for every student

Opinion Editor's Editorial  
Contributing Writer Ed West

Richard Moyer, vice president of academic affairs at Valley, seems to agree that Latinos need an alternate learning system. His quote in the September 20 edition of the L.A. Times, wherein he stated, "There's a recognition now that different people learn differently." This is a very profound statement however, it lacks further explanation or clarification. While he did not specifically mention Latinos in his statement, but being this story is focused on a grant made to Latino students, it is safe to say that Moyer had Latinos on his mind when he rendered that statement. Later, in a personal interview with Moyer, in reference to his quote; he stated, that "People learn differently, because they are culturally and personally taught differently."

In that regard, do Anglo students, African/American students, Chinese, Korean and Japanese students have or need a different way to learn? Does every culture learn in a different way? If so, and if indeed different people learn differently, will they receive the same considerations and accommodations about to be afforded to Latino students?

Is the recognition of the differences in which different people learn a fore-runner of future education; In the years to come will Valley College be a segregated institu-

tion of learning? Where will the teachers come from? Will each ethnic society attend a separate facility on campus to propagate their own culture? Will they be taught in English or in their native language? Will they raise their national flag every morning?

Finally, what happens after this government grant (Prieto's) has been expended? Where will the funds come from to support the continuance of these special, alternate, different learning systems? If government assistance is not forthcoming, will tuition be raised and more importantly, will students be able to afford the tuition?

Return the money. Tell Prieto you cannot accept it because of its biased proviso. The repercussions that could possibly result from accepting it far outweigh the assistance it may, or may not, give to the students of a specific culture.

In any college, community or otherwise, all students should receive equal and fair treatment from the administration. Students should advance, depending on their attitude, dedication and capabilities. When students do not advance they lack some or all of the above characteristics. Higher education as presented to Valley students is a tried and proven system. It is not broken. Don't fix it.

## Myths of rape perpetuate crime

Opinion by Denice Labertem  
Valley Star Staff Writer

Los Angeles Valley College lists zero rapes in the crime statistics of its most recent edition. However, with an enrollment of over 15,561 students, the percentage of assaults against women does not meet this listing.

I have recently become involved with an organization by the name of Los Angeles Commission on Assaults Against Women (L.A.C.A.A.W.). As a trainee advocate for the rape and battery hotline, some of my training involves a great deal of research on facts pertaining to violence against women, and more specifically, rape.

Much of the information our society applies to violence against women is inaccurate. It is through sharing accurate information that

we may be empowered through knowledge.

According to studies compiled from colleges and universities across the country, 25 percent of women have been victims of rape or attempted rape. This does not seem to apply to LAVC when looking at the college's catalog.

Many people seem to believe rapes occur in dark alleys and are committed by strangers. In fact, 75 to 84 percent of victims were acquainted with their attackers. Eighty-four percent of these women were less than 25 years old.

Another frightening myth about rapes are the descriptions of the attackers. Many men and women believe a rapist has a certain look. Studies show one in 12 men admit to committing acts which meet the legal definition of rape. The dictionary definition of rape is "to vio-

late".

Violence in our communities affects everyone. If you are not the victim, it could be your sister, mom or even grandmother. We are all responsible for making changes.

Seventy-two percent of victims never identify themselves as victims of rape. Over 80 percent of rape survivors never report the crime. Perhaps this is why the college catalog lists no report of crimes which statistically must be occurring.

These first steps may help us in combatting violence.

First, change your stereotypes about victims and victimizers.

Second, if in doubt about an action, think twice before acting. "No" means no, no matter what language.

Third, talk about it, listen to victims and be aware. Fourth, learn how not to be a victim.



## Justice: a guilt-edged sword cuts both ways

Opinion By Kit Paraventi  
Valley Star Staff Writer

Saturday evening, I went to Nicole's house. The night air was tinged with a hint of chill over the pleasant upper-class residences which had endured intrusive feet, probing eyes, and glaring camera lights for the past year and a half. The slender flame from the candle I carried combined with several thousand others to cast a bleak, wavering glow over the shadowed trim lawns and shrubbery.

It was a gathering of astonishing ethnic, social and political diversity and dimension. Candle-carrying Blacks, Whites, Latinos, and Asians swelled the streets of Brentwood wearing small brown and gold ribbons in memory of murder victims Nicole Brown and Ronald Goldman. Students marched beside business owners, postal workers and secretaries. Liberal Democrats strolled arm-in-arm with Christian Coalition supporters. Despite their varied professions, cultures, and allegiances, each participant shared mutual identities as mothers, fathers, sisters, and brothers. Each was still reeling with his or her own profoundly personal sense of grief and outrage following the announcement of the O.J. Simpson verdict.

Like others, I was there to console and support. Like others, I was also there to vent frustration at a system and society which does little to protect victims, bestows heroism based on athletic prowess or fame without regard for character, and enables individuals to seize upon the bigotry of

others as an excuse for unleashing their own.

Growing up White in the city of Detroit, I witnessed and experienced racial bigotry in various shades and guises. My predominantly Black neighborhood and high school provided uncomfortable insights into the ugliest image of my own race through the eyes of friends and neighbors. I was constantly reminded of the sins of my race, past and present. I also learned, first-hand, the derision and contempt to which minorities are subjected. Racial intimidation and insults on the streets of Detroit were a daily tribulation for a White woman. I was denied jobs — sometimes even application forms because I didn't belong to a minority. Because of the systematically reinforced sense of shame for my ancestry, my sensibilities and outrage over discrimination stopped short of myself.

When my father, a 32-year city employee, arrived home one night with a letter from the mayor mandating a freeze on the hiring and promoting of all white males, he accepted the nullification of his career with silent surrender. To call racism what it was might provoke accusations of the same sentiment.

Contemporary moralist and concentration camp survivor Victor Frankl once said that humanity is divided into two races. One is composed of decent human beings, the other isn't. Racial solidarity, once an empowering source of cultural pride and self-esteem, has become the vehicle of intolerance and irresponsible behavior, as was demonstrated in and around the

Simpson trial. Racism, and the misuse of one's position to promote it, is as unacceptable in a multi-ethnic jury as it is in a White cop.

Public response to the trial also teaches that racial self-hatred is as insidious a culprit as other hallmarks of intolerance. Responsible moral behavior is seldom inspired by guilt. Ultimately, each culture may trace its heritage back to lingering roots of atrocity, genocide, and betrayal.

We cannot compensate for our forebears. We can only take moral responsibility for the here and now. Honest, hard-working Los Angeles police officers should not bear the brunt of our disgust at the few Mark Fuhrmans of all races that mar their ranks. Compassionate men should not be subjected to our rage at the grim realities of domestic violence. Racism by a defense team or jury should not compel us to succumb to the ugliest relics of our heritage.

As I drove home that evening along the 405, the sense of peace that comes with a plan of action filled me. I resolved to hold and honor in my heart the memory of Brown, Goldman, and other primary and secondary victims of domestic violence. I promised to donate time and money to a local battered women's shelter. I vowed to boycott O.J. Simpson and any tabloid or broadcast entity that seeks to capitalize on his crimes, and to encourage others to do the same.

Perhaps it will make no difference in the grand scheme of history. However, it makes a difference to me.

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### ★ LETTERS ★ LETTERS ★ LETTERS ★

The Valley Star will receive and, if possible, publish letters from its readers. The Star reserves the right to condense all letters for space considerations. Submitted letters should be limited to 350 words. Letters are subject to editing if they are obscene, libelous, or make ra-

cial, ethnic, religious, sexist, or sexually oriented denigrations. Letter must be signed and include student's ID number. Letters may be dropped at the Valley Star Bungalow 25, by Monday morning for the following Thursday.



# Honors Society rolls into Skateland

By David Helleskov  
Asst. News Editor

For all rollerskaters, skaters and thrill seekers in the Southland, Northridge Skateland hosted three hours of excitement for 125 people on Oct. 8. Tau Alpha Epsilon (TAE), the honors society invited club members, students and the general public to attend their bi-annual Skate Night fundraiser. From 7 to 10 p.m. and admission price for \$4.50, with a \$2 skate rental, participants laced up aged skates collecting dust in the closet and strapped on newly purchased rollerblades that had not been broken in yet.

TAE Scholastic Coordinator Cynthia Alden handles a tutoring program for all Valley students in need of help in their classes. She said, "This is new and exciting for me."

It's a fundraiser and a social event designed for people to get to know one another. We (TAE) host the Dean's Tea every semester which is financed by Student Affairs. The gala honors recipients that made the Dean's List with a 3.4 GPA or higher the prior semester.

On March 19, at the prior Skate Night, TAE raise \$300. TAE Treasurer and officer-in-charge for the

evening Natasha Vovchuk said, "It was a great turnout last semester. About 125 people were on hand. Of the 150 TAE members about 50 to 75 occupants came out to support us tonight."

This occasion is called a 50-50 party. Fifty percent of the profits went to Skateland, while the other half goes back to TAE. Skateland provided the flyers for distributing around campus, music for overall atmosphere and security for protection.

"This is a great way to see what we do. You're having fun and meeting new people. I started planning by making phone calls to find a place to hold the event."

I bought a roll of tickets and pre-sold them. A lot of members bought tickets for themselves prior to arriving at the door.

I distributed flyers, handouts and posters around Valley. At Club Day, I sold tickets for this wonderful night and several people showed up by purchasing their admission at their own school on campus," said Vovchuk.

Bobby Lane, President of TAE, took a breather from circling the rink to deliver his input. Lane said, "This social occurrence gets you away from the daily grind. We get a chance to hang out and enjoy ourselves. Everyone needs an outlet to relax."



Valley students and citizens from the community enjoyed an evening of rolling recreation at TAE's fundraiser at Northridge Skateland.

For those interested in joining TAE, one must have 12 units completed at Valley and a GPA of 3.2.

Meetings are held every Monday in CC 204 from 1:30 to 2:30

p.m. for day students and from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. for night students.

Each event has proceeds, in which members earn points for volunteering or working at fundraisers and community service.

Some events include pizza fundraisers, car washes and bake sales.

Donating food, clothes and toys to the women's shelter and campus clean-up days are just two examples of community outreach programs.

Based on the number of points earned throughout a given semester, the total determines the amount of scholarship money that will be awarded.

"I've always wanted to join TAE and participate in community service."

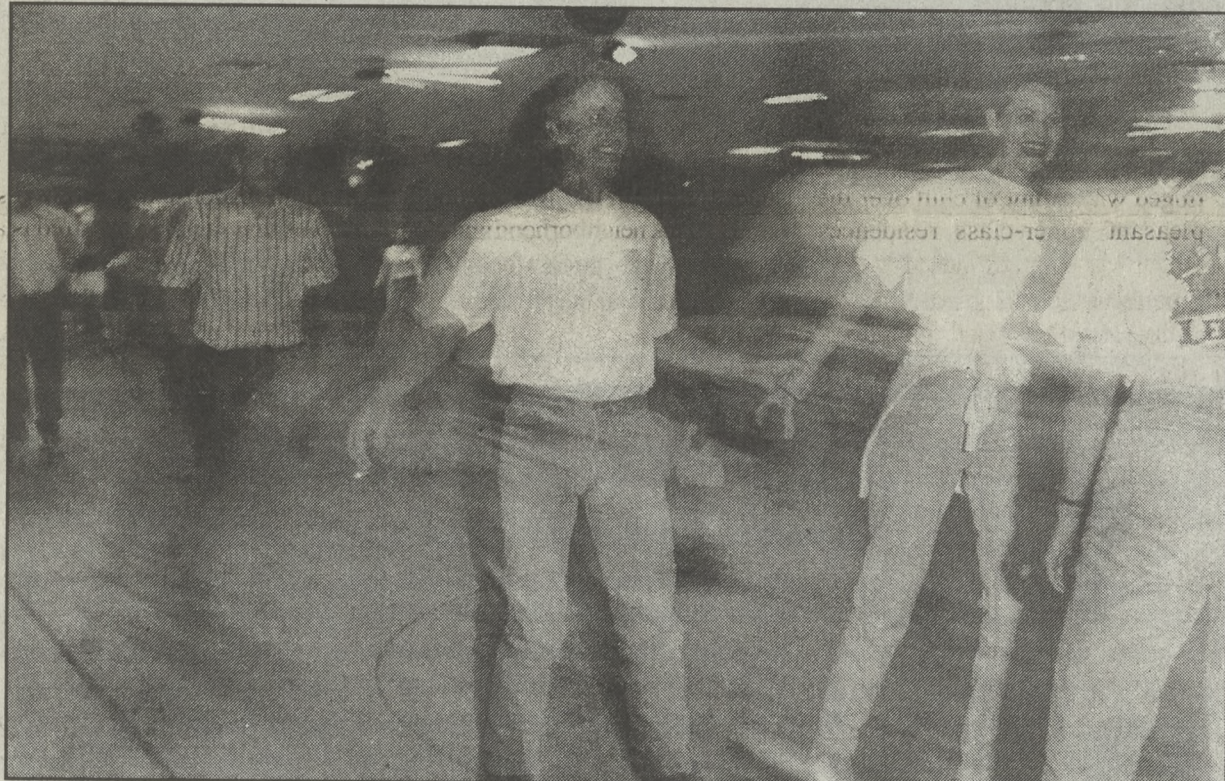
As a member, I've received more direction in deciding on my future career goal and it feels good to help people.

Since joining the honors society, I have been awarded with two schol-

arships. People should come out to our many varied events, have a good time and join our society," said Vovchuk.

The following is a summation of TAE's events scheduled to close out the month.

Homecoming is on Oct. 14 in Monarch Stadium at 7 p.m. A fundraiser at Shakey's pizza parlor from 6 to 9 p.m. will take place on Oct. 19. In Monarch Hall, on Oct. 27, a Halloween party will occur from 3 to 8 p.m.



TAE President Lane and Scholastic Coordinator Cynthia Alden took advantage of Skate Night Sunday.

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# The sick new trend in filmmaking

By Bristol Mac Donald  
Entertainment Editor

The O.J. Simpson trial. It was the longest running mini-series in the history of television. A 15 month courtroom drama that put the likes of L.A. Law and Perry Mason to shame. Screenwriters and studio executives, in a jealous frenzy, questioned their own abilities while they watched the most riveting, plot-twisting, who-dunnit unfold before their very eyes.

It began as a simple synopsis. Famous football legend allegedly kills his ex-wife and her innocent friend in a jealous tirade. Who would have gambled on throwing in domestic violence, DNA evidence, a man hunt, car chase, rac-

ist cop and brilliant lawyers?

Audiences celebrated this haunting murder mystery with a passionate dedication not even Melrose Place fans could match. The media jumped in, tripods, cameras, laptops and all to deliver the gory, often manipulated details to the insatiable appetites of their viewers.

When the climactic moment arrived, the audience faithfully tuned in and waited in anticipation for the final scene to be played out. The verdict would be read. What would happen to this epic's accused murderer? When the jury announced its decision, the words not guilty electrified the airwaves.

The media rushed into high gear and covered audience reactions. It was as if these people had just

walked out of a movie theatre and were anxious to express their opinions about Hollywood's latest release. Was the O.J. Simpson trial news or pure entertainment for the masses?

With society's fascination for the morbid and perverse and the media's preoccupation with glorifying criminals and knocking down heroes, it is no wonder the once distinguished field of journalism has lost its dignity. Tabloid journalism such as; Hard Copy, Inside Edition, The Star, Globe and The National Enquirer have lowered journalism to the depths of repulsion.

In light of this, Americans are now faced with a new trend of filmmaking that laughs in the face of this cultural tragedy. Natural

Born Killers and the newly released To Die For are two examples of filmmakers focusing on the media's sick obsession for deranged characters, committing unspeakable crimes in the hope for fame and fortune.

Gus Van Sant's satirical To Die For, starring Nicole Kidman, follows the story of Suzanne Stone, a cold-blooded, ambitious, cable station weather girl who dreams of being the next media queen. This role is no great stretch for Kidman, who is forever delivering cold hearted performances.

The character of Suzanne makes it clear that no one will block her road to success, especially not her stick-in-the-mud husband Larry (Matt Dillion). Larry desperately tries to convince her to settle down,

start a family and stop this silly TV stuff. In Suzanne's twisted mind, this is the last nail in the coffin, that seals Larry's unfortunate fate.

Suzanne cleverly manipulates three pathetic teenagers to finish off her nuisance of a husband. Joaquin Phoenix (River's brother), gives a disturbing performance as Jimmy, the mesmerized teenager, obsessed with Suzanne and motivated by her premeditated sexual advances. This story, based on Joyce Maynard's novel and scripted by Buck Henry, screams Betty Broderick and The Postman Always Rings Twice.

The twist on this ludicrous plot is how the film is constructed around Suzanne's home video interview of her own story, which in the end she pops out of the camera

and holds in her greedy little hands like gold. Today, the story of a sociopath is like money in the bank.

Suzanne's motto is "you're not anyone in America unless you're on TV". What message is this new trend of filmmaking delivering to the public? These films give all potential psychopaths the green light to kill, with the hope their crime will in some way attract the media's attention.

If they are lucky, they too will have a film, television movie-of-the-week or talk show dedicated to their pathetic lives.

Should the media, in their obsessive pursuit for ratings and sales, create celebrities out of criminals? A line must be drawn between informative news and sheer entertainment.

## Horse Soldiers blend performance with Civil War memories

By David Helleskov  
Asst. News Editor

Jeff Wolfe (vocal, guitar and harmonica) and Valley student Bobby Lane (vocals and guitar) formed a musical duo named the Horse Soldiers. Wolfe and Lane use "that unique blend of 19th century folk and honky tonk," according to LA Weekly, Oct. 7, 1994. They have been active in the music circuit since 1987, performing songs featuring harmonies and acoustic guitars. Their next performance will be today Oct. 12 at 11 a.m. in the Music Recital Hall.

The first half of today's show will include civil war songs, in which Lane is dressed as a border patrol officer and Wolfe in a union colonel costume. Country folk songs

will be performed for the second half of the hour. Sixty-five percent of the band's songs are original from their own ideas and lyrics.

The group tours throughout the Southwestern United States, including Arizona, Nevada, Colorado, Texas and through the Midwest region. Lane says, "When you get out of California, that's where the people really embrace this type of music. We love to drive and see the country."

After taking off two years and seeing his old band featured on KLOS for writing down home country rock and blues, he decided to return to writing and playing music. With seven years of radio experience, his own production company, a band that performs widely and as President of TAE



Valley Star/Rod Goodman  
Jeff Wolfe (left) and Bobby Lane will perform Oct. 12 on campus.

(Tau Alpha Epsilon), Lane plans to transfer to UCLA as a music major.

Music Department Chair George Attarian says, "He always tried to apply what he learned, understood the music theory behind the composition of pieces he wrote and knew the results if he strayed off course from certain music guidelines. Bobby has a pleasant personality and is not afraid of hard work," says Attarian.

"Rock is a style that I love, although I also played contemporary and traditional jazz and later performed a style of country rock and blues. I like the combination of Pink Floyd's melodic intensity with the jazzy side of Sting and a little technicality from Rush. People may best remember me from my

former band, the Bobby Lane group," says Lane.

Lane loves roller hockey, writing music for film and television and helping other people. "Music gets in my blood and it's always been my first love. I would like to teach music and do more songwriting for movies and television. The bottom line for me is to do music and make a comfortable living at it," says Lane.

A double album titled "Ridin' West" is a long awaited anthology of Western songs. It features the Horse Soldiers along with a variety of cowboy legends, including Johnny Cash, Waylon Jennings, Gene Autry, Johnny Horton, Tex Ritter and Don Edwards. The album is available by contacting (818) 832-4731 via fax.

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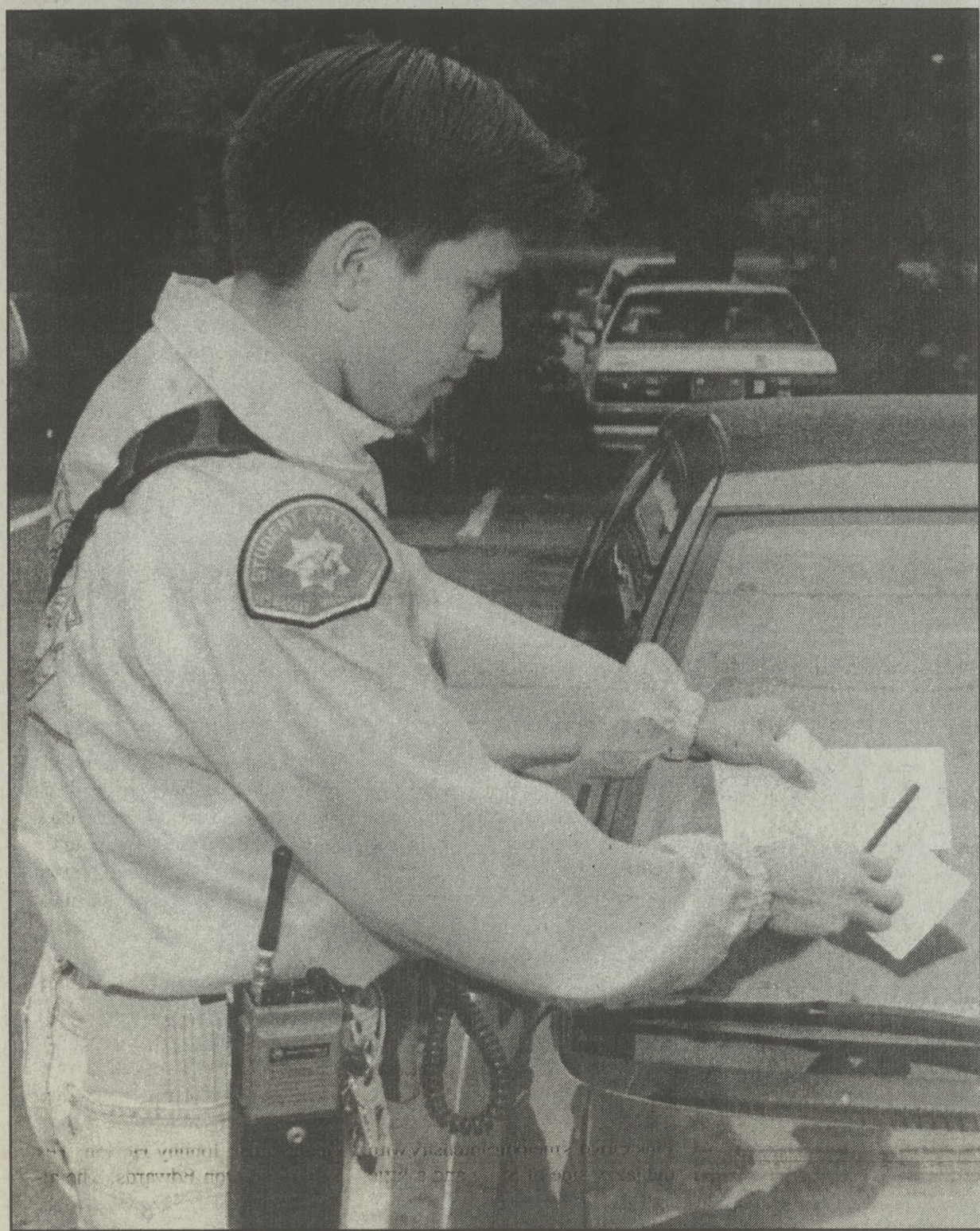
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# Law enforcement: a profession under siege



James Quinn, is one of four student cadets who patrol the campus as part of a law enforcement program. Valley Star/Alexander Such

By Kit Paraventi  
Feature Editor

Captain Karl Traber, his voice still flavored with the vernacular of a Los Angeles police sergeant and faint traces of his native Bavarian dialect, shakes his head.

"My biggest concern," he says, "is that I know how tough it is to be a police officer today. I just don't want citizens' distrust to make the police stop doing their jobs — stop taking a pro-active role in their communities."

He's talking about the verdict in

the Simpson case, announced hours earlier.

Traber's desk and the office surrounding him look like they belong in an L.A. precinct station. Photos of smiling, blue-uniformed officers share wall space with a large map on which red pins mark crime scenes. In the tiny waiting room that borders the outer office where staff workers and cadets answer phones and dispatch investigators, a single careworn sofa is provided for visitors. A framed mosaic of old car keys inscribing the words, "Lost and Found" hangs

above it. Of the 13 full-time personnel in the campus police force, 10 are retired or active Los Angeles Police Department (LAPD) officers. "We work very closely with the LAPD," says Traber.

Traber, a 22-year veteran, left the LAPD to become senior officer of Valley's Campus Police in 1985. Bungalow 59 is the center of operations for the 23 full and part-time officers who, with staff members, patrol cadets and volunteers share responsibility for law enforcement and student safety on the 105-acre campus. It's also been

the scene of an intense discussion that began with the first LAPD radio call requesting homicide investigators at Brentwood's Bundy Drive.

In the 16 months since, hot national buzz words have peppered the unofficial conversations in Bungalow 59 — the gloves, the Fuhrman tapes, the DNA — each provided fodder for analysis and debate. For most of the law enforcement veterans and aspiring student criminal justice cadets, the overriding and underlying question has shifted from "Will Simpson get away with it?" to "Can law enforcement officers regain the public trust?"

"I was always proud to be a part of the LAPD," says Traber. "When I attended the police academy in 1963, the attrition rate was enormous — it was that hard to get in. What happened during this trial was tragic."

Traber is responding to the analysis by numerous political pundits that the verdict represents an indictment of the LAPD, and on a broader scale, of the American system of justice. Orenthal James Simpson, acquitted October 3 for the 1994 stabbing murders of his estranged wife, Nicole Brown and her friend Ronald Goldman, may have prevailed over what prosecutors described as a "mountain of evidence" through a defense strategy depicting the LAPD as a "cesspool." Attorney Johnnie L. Cochran Jr. also argued that Detective Mark Fuhrman had tampered with and planted incriminating evidence and that other investigators acted in conspiratorial collusion. The Los Angeles Times recently reported that 21 percent of White readers polled and a staggering 75 percent of Black readers agree.

The opinion that charismatic football, television and film star Simpson killed two people is predominant among cadets and officers in Bungalow 59. "The defense can do everything within the law to win an acquittal — regardless of whether it's right or wrong," says Traber. "I'm not saying the problem of racism doesn't exist, but Fuhrman is entirely uncharacteristic of LAPD officers."

Chris James, a 32-year-old Administration of Justice student, says he was angered at the sight of crowds booing LAPD officers after the verdict was announced. Of O.J. Simpson, James adds "He's an embarrassment to his race. 'I'm the perfect person to ask, because I'm an African American man who's involved in law enforcement. I know people who bought the story. It's been very difficult.'"

James points out that little media coverage is devoted to efforts like "Jeopardy," a Van Nuys program in which police work with parents and kids to help stem the tide of gang violence.

Of the verdict, James says he was "shocked. I think those people on the jury did not trust the LAPD because they were so bombarded with stuff. Don't forget, we just recovered from the Rodney King incident and the Christopher Commission."

The Christopher Commission, formed in the wake of the controversial acquittal of police officers charged in the 1991 videotaped beating of Rodney King, is part of an effort to detect and control racism in the department. The verdict sparked the deadly 1992 Los Angeles riots and triggered a hailstorm of controversy centered around the LAPD.

"I know from experience how diligently the department polices itself," says Officer G. Tam, a 29-year veteran who came to Valley in 1992. "Long before the Christopher Commission, LAPD officers requested video cameras for patrol cars."

With the verdict publicly denounced by law enforcement officials, the question of who is to blame is also a topic of contention. "If they (the jury) are 80 percent certain that he was guilty and 20 percent suspicious that perhaps he wasn't, they had to acquit, because there was doubt," says Traber.

"I think they did an honest job, based on what they were allowed to hear," says Tam. "The courts worry so much about the accused that the victims become a secondary consideration. There's an imbalance."

Juan Carlos Castro, a 21-year-

old Administration of Justice student who has applied for a job with the L.A. Sheriff's Department says, "Judges treat jurors like kids. It was an emotionally based decision."

For Tam, frustration over verdicts is part of the job. "As a police officer, I investigate the crime, make an accurate report, and testify in court. I'm not judging O.J. It's not my job."

Tam tells the story of a case in which an armed assailant returned to a store he had just robbed to shoot the robbery victim in the head — a near-fatal wound which confined the merchant to a wheelchair for the rest of his life. In spite of physical evidence and numerous witnesses, the assailant was convicted of only one of the four felonies with which he was charged, and sentenced to three years probation. "He never spent a day in jail," says Tam.

After the trial, the wheelchair-bound crime victim followed Tam down the hall of the court building demanding to know how such a thing could happen. "That was the last time I stuck around till the end of a trial to find out what the verdict would be. I've seen a lot of people guilty as sin go free. That's why I don't act as judge and jury."

For the less-seasoned students who aspire to careers in law enforcement, a philosophical outlook doesn't come as easily. "If a white athlete had been arrested, the verdict would have been different," says James Quinn, a 21-year-old Administration of Justice major. "And if they found O.J. 'not guilty,' why take it out on the LAPD?"

Cadets and veterans alike point out that they were drawn to the profession by a strong desire to better their communities — to make a difference. "I like people," says Tam. "That's why I'm in a people business."

Jessica Dollartide, a 17-year-old Administration of Justice student who wants to pursue a career in intelligence investigation adds, "If anything, it makes me want to become a law enforcement officer even more. People need to be shown what's right and wrong. We're here to keep the peace, and to serve as an example."

## Armenian Student Association organizes for cultural bonding: Group invites all to join in learning traditions

By Jose Israel Lemus  
Valley Star Staff Writer

If the Armenian population on campus is growing, why isn't there an Armenian students club? Some Armenian students pondered the question last semester.

"We were kind of noticing how the Armenian population was getting larger and larger," says Herpsima Khatchadorian, president of the newly formed Armenian Student Association (ASA).

The ASA is now a chartered club on campus under guidelines of the Associated Student Union (ASU). Three years ago when Khatchadorian first came to Valley college "It was rare" to find an Armenian student in her classes. Now there are often three or four in most classes she takes.

Admissions records, based on ethnic language fluency, show a 5.6 percent Armenian population for fall of 1994, a little under 1000 students.

Dexter Kelly, a research analyst for the Los Angeles Community College District, estimates that there may be twice as many, since not all Armenian students who register at Valley speak the language. Armenians are included in the "white non Hispanic" ethnic category in official forms.

"We are very wide and diverse," says a smiling, dark-haired Khatchadorian. There is multiculturalism among Armenians. "I don't think there is a single continent without an Armenian community."

Khatchadorian herself is a Lebanese-Armenian who went to school in Damascus, Syria, and has been in the United States for the last 10 years. But "it is not important" where people are from as long as they are interested in the Armenian culture and supportive of the ASA.

Next to her sits ASA vice president Silva Baltayan, born in Egypt from Egyptian-Armenian parents.

Almost bursting in smiles, Baltayan takes turn, with eagerness. The purpose of the club is to build "awareness of Armenian culture" on campus.

With 30 - 40 active members, the ASA is preparing to help the ASU host the homecoming event on Oct. 14.

Both president and vice president attribute the association's growth to active membership recruitment from names collected last semester and during the first club day held this fall.

Meetings take place in room 103 of the Behavioral Science building at 1 p.m. on the first and third Mondays of each month.

Future events the association plans to sponsor include a commemoration to honor the nearly half a million Armenians massacred by the Ottoman Empire on April 24, 1909.

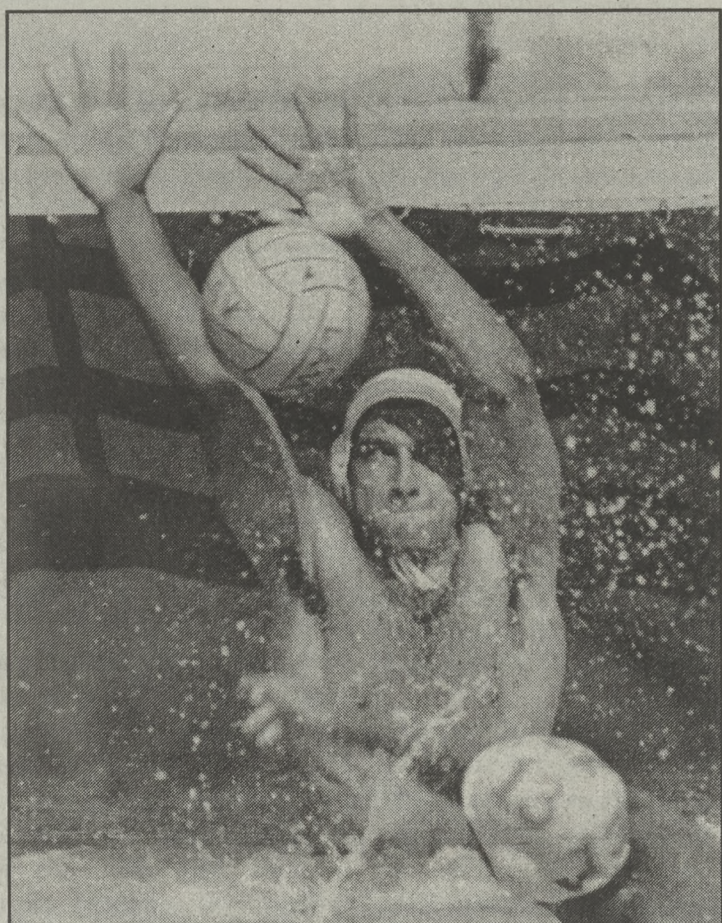
Getting involved in the ASA, Baltayan says, "is about a love of culture."



The Armenian Student Association meets with president Herpsima Khatchadorian to plan homecoming. Valley Star/Naomasa Tokuhara



# Water polo makes a splash



Valley Star/Dawn Redmann  
Goalie Serjik Amiryanyan fends off an attack by teammate at practice.

By Sandra Carranza  
Sports Editor

The game of water polo is similar to that of soccer, although there are seven players on a water polo team, six field players and one goalie.

A team advances the ball by passing and dribbling to a point close to the goal to allow a shot on goal.

Water Polo is one of the most important sports at the Olympic games and Valley College has one of the best water polo teams this semester.

With an overall record of 11 wins, seven losses and two ties, the water polo team has a great chance to go to the Western State Confer-

ence Playoffs.

Valley's standout players so far are two defenders, Jeff Bissell sophomore, and freshmen Theo Smits Van Oyen.

On offense are high goal scorers

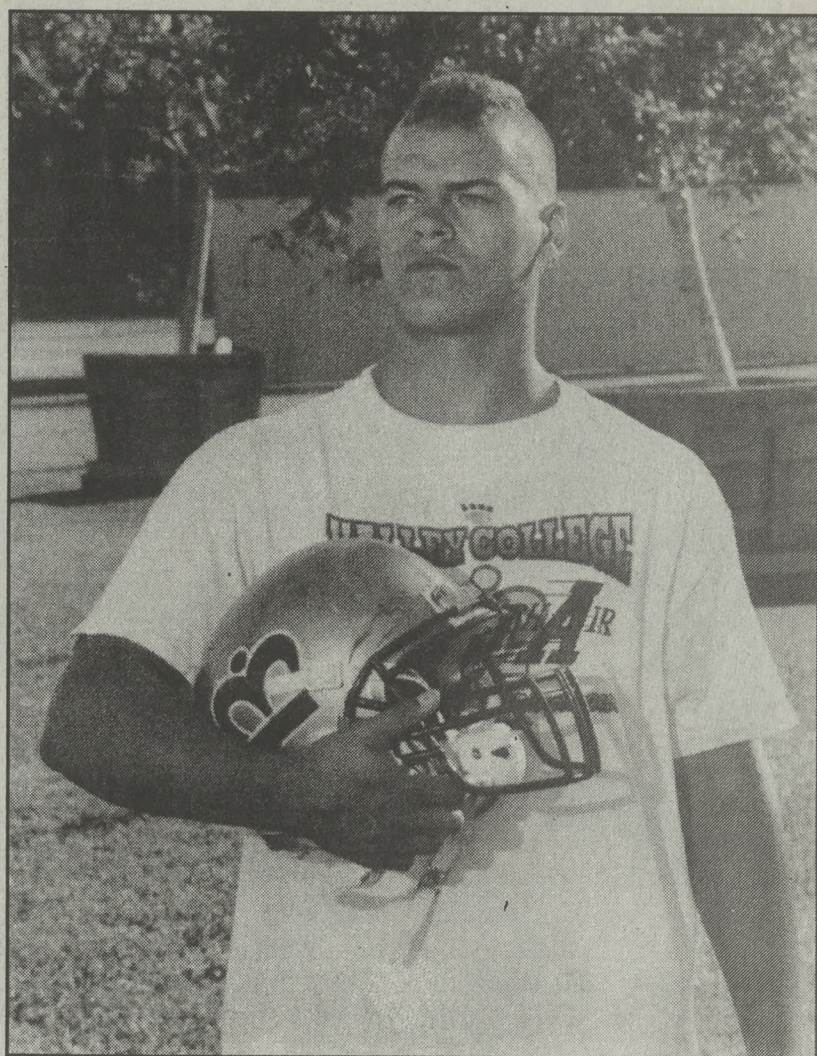
Armond Abramian, Zhibert Abramyan and Serjik Amiryanyan.

"Our players work out extremely hard, and are dedicated to the sport," said Bill Krauss.

**Bill Krauss**  
Head Coach

Water Polo team practices everyday from 1:00 to 3:30 p.m. and two mornings from 6:30 to 8:00 a.m.

Valley won 13-8 over Cypress at a championship game, where Van Oyen scored five goals and Abramyan scored four goals.



Valley Star/Alexander Such

David Eastham, Player of the Month, is star receiver for the Monarchs.

## Monarchs Hammer the Tartars

By Sandra Carranza  
Sports Editor

The Monarchs swept past the Compton Tartars at Valley College Saturday Night, 62-7.

Quarterback Aaron Flowers played only the first half where he completed 16 of 20 passes for 267 yards. Flowers was covered by David Lins in the second half,

where he threw the only aerial touchdown of the night, a quick strike to Willie Perryman midway through the third quarter.

David Eastham led in pass catching, when he snagged six tosses for 93 yards.

Marcus Harvey picked up three touchdowns on the night, while Elijah Raphael scored two more touchdowns. Marcel Desir did most

of the rushing and also scored a touchdown.

The Monarchs jumped out to a 7-0 lead in the first quarter and extended it to 29-0 at the half. After the intermission, Raphael set the pace for the Monarch, returning the opening kickoff 40 yards.

The lead widened to 55-0 before Tartar's linebacker Deonne Evans intercepted a pass and ran it back

85 yards for Compton's only score.

It has been a rough start for coach Art Perkins' Compton Tartars.

The team is 0-5 on the year and still has several tough teams to battle.

The Monarchs also beat the Tartars last year, 43-6 where they spoiled Compton's Homecoming party.

## Athlete of the month

David Eastham, Valley sophomore and wide receiver, leads Western State conference in receptions. Captain for two games and LAVC player of week vs. Bakersfield, he was state receiver of week for 9-23.

## Football Sports Calendar

Oct. 14 Homecoming: Pierce vs. Valley. 7 p.m. at Valley

Oct. 21 Harbor vs. Valley. 7 p.m. at Valley

Oct. 28 LA Southwest vs. Valley. 1 p.m. at LA Southwest

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